ROCK 'N' ROLL
COMICS
30
JULY
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REVOLUTIONARY COMICS
UNAUTHORIZED AND PROUD OF IT.
the Cure
Scott Jackson

☆☆☆ REVOLUTIONARY COMMENTS ☆☆☆

3841 Fourth Avenue, Suite 229 ❒ San Diego, CA 92103

By Todd Loren

TELL YOUR RETAILERS

We just sold out on *The Beatles Experience #2*, only one month after printing it! There's still some copies of #1 available, and for you collectors out there, please be aware that we haven't reprinted any Rock N' Roll Comics since #12, and we do not plan on reprinting them in the future (except possibly in paperback book form), so if you want to make sure you don't miss an issue, you've got to reserve a copy with your retailer! The only other way is to subscribe (by calling 619-688-7827). They also have a good selection of back-issues. The reason why a lot of comic book stores don't order enough copies of Rock N' Roll Comics is because it's a rather unique series. Your average comic book, such as X-Men or Spiderman, sells pretty consistently month after month. But with Rock N' Roll Comics, there are certain groups that are more popular than others, and generally speaking these stores order the same amount of books regardless of who is on the cover! Then, once they've sold out, they don't call us to find out if we have more copies available (which we often do!). *The Beatles Experience #2* was a unique situation, we don't usually sell out that fast. We're going to keep working with the comic book stores and distributors to try to encourage them to reorder back issues once they sell out of their initial order, but in the meantime, the best way to deal with this is to reserve your copies in advance! I know it's a hassle, but you'll be glad you did it when you see a future issue *sold out*, and your copy is sitting there waiting for you!

LETTERS

"Todd,

I've never collected comics before (it's a big thing in my town), but I have to say, Rock N' Roll Comics is very cool. I just bought your AC/DC comic and I was reading the letters, when I read some jerk complaining about the Metallica issue.

First, let me say that I happen to play bass guitar, and to me Cliff Burton was the greatest bassist that ever lived. Kinda like Randy Rhoads is to guitarists. I thought your story on Cliff was very informative, and appropriate!!

There was nothing wrong with it and the art was really good!

Also, even though I hate Madonna and New Kids On The Block, I think it's great that you're showing an open mind to the various types of music out there. I hope Revolutionary Comics is around for a long time.

You're a down-to-Earth dude, Todd.

Keep Rockin!

A Rock N' Roll Comics collector,
Lanndon Blackmon, 5602 Sioux, Carlsbad, NM 88220"

"To Whom It May Concern,

I have recently purchased a copy of your Kiss comic book, and I feel that I should point out a few mis-printed facts that appear in this particular comic book. First of all, the original song that Paul first sang to Gene was called "Sunday Driver", which later appeared on their first album as "Let Me Know". Secondly, Paul's original make-up design was a star, which the record company changed to the bandit design, and Paul changed it back. Another thing which you totally forgot was that there was a compilation album releasd in 1978 called "Best Of Solo Albums", and last of all, Eric Carr's original make-up was not a fox, it was a yellow bird, and he appeared on the cover of People *magazine in it. I hope that this letter does not offend you, but mistakes should be corrected. I did, however, enjoy reading the comic book, and would like to know if you plan on publishing any more Kiss issues.*

A True Kiss Fan,
Erik L. Davis, 85 Aiken Ave. #26, Rensselaer, NY 12144"

What you've pointed out, Erik, is omissions, and not necessarily "mistakes". Certain facts were omitted due to lack of space, or importance. Interesting stuff, though! You *must* be a true Kiss fan!

"Dear Todd,

I must commend your writer, Jay Allen Sanford, on a great biography of ZZ Top. As a big Top fan, I was thrilled to see one of my personal favorites done by Revolutionary. I only wish the ZZ issue was in color...I also have a small comment on Jay's story. It didn't have nearly *enough of the humor it could've. The Top has a great sense of humor, and it seemed toned down in the biography.*

The Mojo Nixon "Bio" prompted me and another reader to send the issue to two DJ's who happen to be "pals" with Mojo. I'll let you know what their reaction is when I hear it.

Sir Jon Johnson, 64 Indian Hill Ave., Portland, CT 06480"

"Dear Revolutionary Comics,

Hey, you guys, I just wanted to let you know how I felt about your comics...I think they're great! I was really delighted and impressed with the idea of biographies of rock bands in comic book form, and it's very entertaining. I was blown away with your stuff. I'm proud to own and collect them.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Narland, 390 N. Las Flores, Nipomo, CA 93444"

COMING UP...
Rock N' Roll Comics 31-Vanilla Ice, 32-Frank Zappa, 33-Guns N' Roses '91, 34-The Black Crowes, *Plus* The Beatles Experience #3-(The Sgt. Pepper Issue!), The Pink Floyd Experience #2. Peace.

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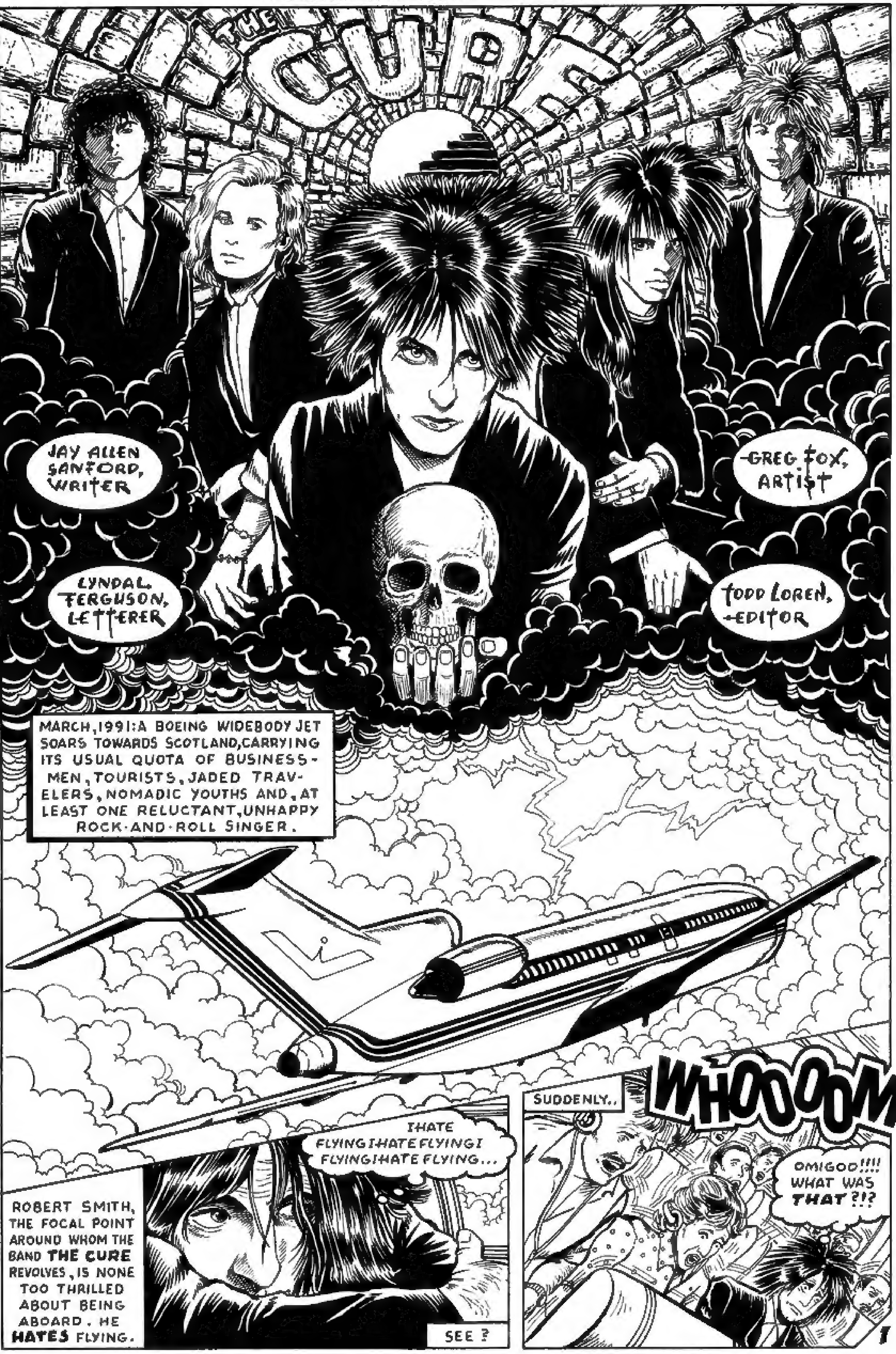
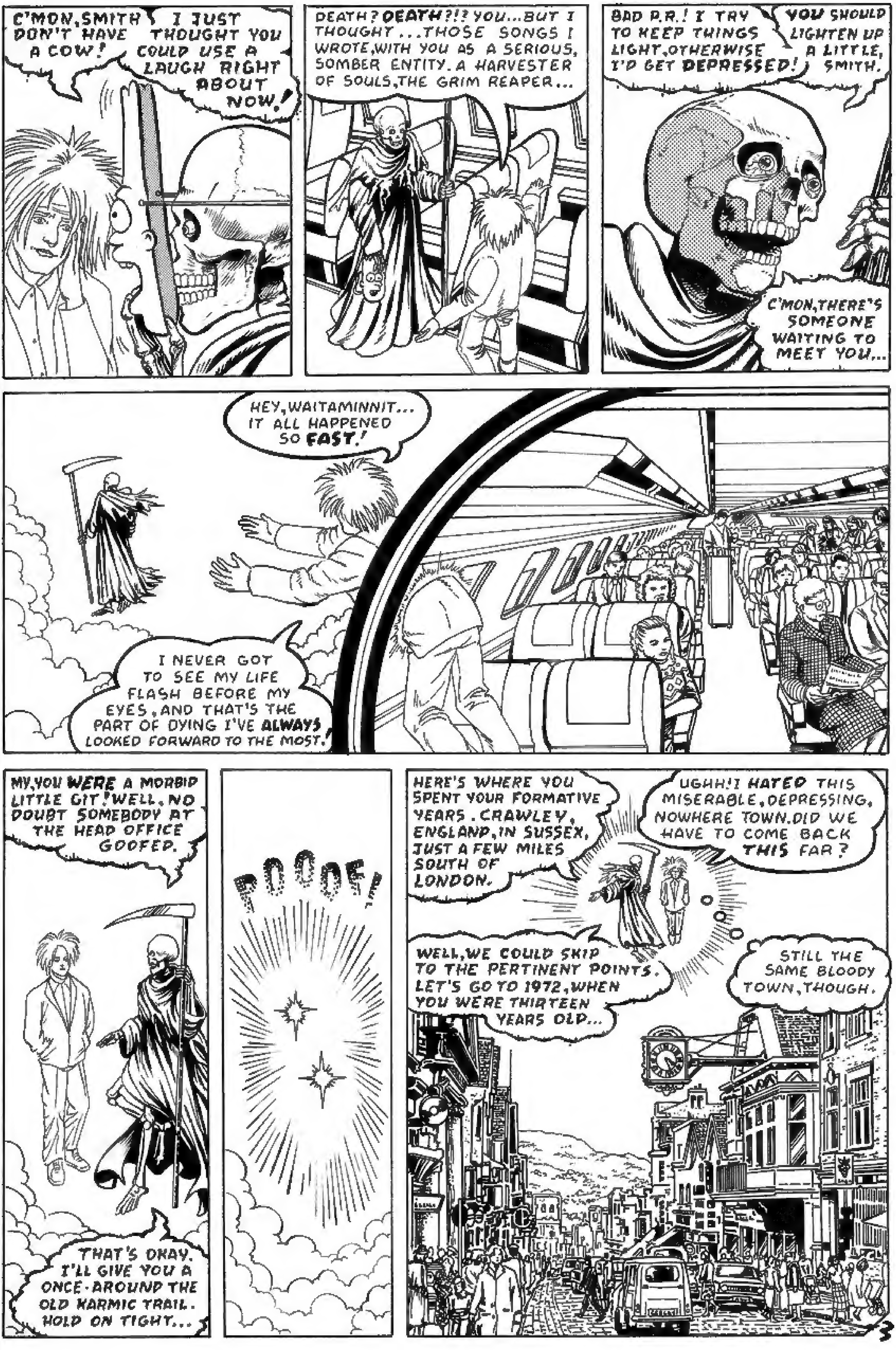


AAAAAANHH!
Nancy Reagan
Kitty Kelley
KLONK
THE PLANE TAKES A BUFFETING FROM A SUDDEN AIR POCKET, DURING WHICH SMITH SUFFERS A SEVERE BLOW TO THE HEAD.
IT... IT'S ACTUALLY HAPPENED! I'VE DIED!!
THAT... THAT'S MY BODY LYING DOWN THERE! SEEZUS!
I TOLD THOSE SODS HOW MUCH I HATE FLYING!
NOW WHAT THE HELL IS SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN?!
EXCUUUUUSE ME...
WHA... YAAAAHHH!!!
HEY HEY HEY, NOW!


C'MON, SMITH DON'T HAVE A COW!
I JUST THOUGHT YOU COULD USE A LAUGH RIGHT ABOUT NOW!
DEATH? DEATH?!? YOU...BUT I THOUGHT ...THOSE SONGS I WROTE, WITH YOU AS A SERIOUS, SOMBER ENTITY. A HARVESTER OF SOULS, THE GRIM REAPER...
BAD P.R.! I TRY TO KEEP THINGS LIGHT, OTHERWISE I'D GET DEPRESSED!
YOU SHOULD LIGHTEN UP A LITTLE, SMITH.
C'MON, THERE'S SOMEONE WAITING TO MEET YOU...
HEY, WAITAMINNIT... IT ALL HAPPENED SO FAST!
I NEVER GOT TO SEE MY LIFE FLASH BEFORE MY EYES, AND THAT'S THE PART OF DYING I'VE ALWAYS LOOKED FORWARD TO THE MOST.
MY, YOU WERE A MORBID LITTLE GIT! WELL, NO DOUBT SOMEBODY AT THE HEAD OFFICE GOOFED.
THAT'S OKAY. I'LL GIVE YOU A ONCE-AROUND THE OLD KARMIC TRAIL. HOLD ON TIGHT...
POOOF!
HERE'S WHERE YOU SPENT YOUR FORMATIVE YEARS. CRAWLEY, ENGLAND, IN SUSSEX, JUST A FEW MILES SOUTH OF LONDON.
UGHH! I HATED THIS MISERABLE, DEPRESSING, NOWHERE TOWN. DID WE HAVE TO COME BACK THIS FAR?
WELL, WE COULD SKIP TO THE PERTINENT POINTS. LET'S GO TO 1972, WHEN YOU WERE THIRTEEN YEARS OLD...
STILL THE SAME BLOODY TOWN, THOUGH.

FABULOUS! I KNEW IT WAS A GUITAR!
WHAT KINDS OF SONGS SHOULD I LEARN FIRST?
I COULD BORROW SIS' BEATLES RECORDS, OR MAYBE ME BROTHER RICHARD'S CAPTAIN BEEFHEART! NAH... BETTER BUY MY OWN.
AH, HERE'S THE TICKET... DAVID BOWIE, ZIGGY STARDUST.
WAR
ARGENT
IF YER JUST GONNA BE ANOTHER ROCKER, MIGHT AS WELL PUT ON A SHOW WITH IT! LIKE ALEX HARVEY!
"HEY, THAT'S RIGHT AROUND WHEN I FIRST MET MARY."
UH, HELLO. YOU'RE MARY POOLE, AREN'T YOU?
REMEMBER ME, ROB SMITH, FROM DRAMA CLASS?
OH, YES... ROBERT! HOW ARE YOU
I... UH, GEE, WHAT'S THAT AWFUL SMELL!?!
OH, IT'S KETCHUP. I POURED IT ON MYSELF, FOR AUTHENTICITY, Y'KNOW, BUT IT'S GETTING A LITTLE RANCID AND STINKY NOW. SORRY ABOUT THAT...
I'VE HEARD THAT ABOUT YOU. YOU LIKE TO DO OUTRAGEOUS THINGS. LIKE WHEN YOU WORE THE BLACK VELVET DRESS TO SCHOOL.
SHE WOULD REMEMBER THAT! I GOT BEAT UP THAT DAY!
"YEAH, I KNEW EVEN THEN I WANTED TO BE DIFFERENT AND OFFBEAT, NO MATTER WHAT PEOPLE THOUGHT."

"IN '76, WHEN I TURNED 17, I WAS ALREADY HANGING ABOUT WITH PORL THOMPSON AND LOL TOLHURST. WE HAD A BAND CALLED MALICE, THAT'S WHEN MY LIFE REALLY GOT STARTED."
SO, WE'RE AGREED? WE OPEN WITH "FOXEY LADY" THEN SEGUE INTO THE THIN LIZZY CUT, "JAILBREAK."
YEAH, ROB, BUT I STILL THINK "SUFFRAGETTE CITY" WOULD KNOCK 'EM DOWN.
"I JUST PLAYED GUITAR THEN. WE HAD TROUBLE AGREEING ON A PERMANENT SINGER. HELL, WE HAD TROUBLE JUST AGREEING ON A NAME!"
WE SHOULD DO MORE ORIGINALS. I LIKE LOL'S SONG, "EASY CURE."
THAT'D BE A BETTER BAND NAME THAN "MALICE"! WE SHOULD BE PROJECTING AN IMAGE MORE IN LINE WITH THE NEWER PUNK GROUPS, LIKE THE "BUZZCOCKS" AND "SEX PISTOLS."
PUNK IS GONNA BE THE NEXT BIG THING.
WHY PLAY ANOTHER BLUES, WHY CHANGE CHORDS? WHY NOT JUST STAY IN "E"?
'CAUSE I WANNA KEEP GETTING GIGS INTO NEXT YEAR SO I DON'T HAVE TO GO BACK TO ART SCHOOL. I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THIS PUNK SCENE...
GUYS, HAVE YOU SEEN THIS ADVERT? HANSA RECORDS IS HAVING A TALENT COMPETITION. THE WINNER GETS A RECORDING CONTRACT AND £1000!!!
Wanna be a recording star?
HANSA
"WE WON, ALL RIGHT, AND USED THE CASH TO BUY EQUIPMENT. BUT HANSA DIDN'T LIKE US. THEY WANTED US RECORDING POP COVERS OF "I FOUGHT THE LAW." WE TAPED OUR OWN SONGS INSTEAD. THE GUYS HAD TALKED ME INTO SINGING BY THEN."
"I'M ALIVE... I'M DEAD..."
"I'M THE STRANGER... KILLING AN ARAB..."
"HEH, WE'D LIE ABOUT OUR AGE TO PLAY CRAWLEY PUBS LIKE THE ROCKET. THE TOWN'S ONLY OTHER PUNK BAND, "LOCKJAW" PLAYED IT TOO. I MET THEIR BASSIST THERE IN EARLY '78."
BOY, YOU GUYS PLAY HARD! HOW'RE YOU DOING?
MY NAME'S ROBERT SMITH.
SURE, "EASY CURE." GOOD BAND. MY NAME'S SIMON. SIMON GALLUP.
SEX PISTOLS

YOU SHOULD COME UP TO OUR REHEARSAL ROOM AND CHECK OUT SOME OF THE NEW MUSIC **WE'RE** WRITING.
WE'RE GOING REALLY MINIMALIST. WHAT WE'D LIKE TO DO IS GET AWAY FROM PRETENTIOUS POP AND INSTEAD FLAY ON SOME REAL EXISTENTIAL ANGST!
YEAH, I LIKE THAT ABOUT YOU GUYS. YOU DON'T MIND SINGING ABOUT DOWNERS LIKE DOUBT, GUILT AND ALIENATION. I NOTICE WHERE YOUR, GUITARIST, PORL, STILL TOSSES IN THE OCCASIONAL "GENESIS" SOLO, THOUGH.
YOU PICKED UP ON THAT, HUH? HE'S NONE TOO HAPPY ABOUT THE BARE-BONES SOUND.
"WITH MIKE DEMPSEY ON BASS, WE DID SOME DEMOS."
"I TRIED TO LAUGH ABOUT IT, HIDING THE TEARS IN MY EYES."
"'CAUSE BOYS ...DON'T... CRY."
"WE GOT THE TAPES TO CHRIS PARRY, AT POLYDOR, THE GUY WHO REPPED FOR SIOUXSIE AND THE BANSHEES. HE WAS JUST STARTING HIS OWN LABEL, AND WE LIKED HIM RIGHT FROM THE START, SO WE SIGNED WITH HIM IN SEPTEMBER '78."
Fiction Records
WOW, RECORDED THE WHOLE ALBUM IN 2 MARATHON SESSIONS, TOURED BEHIND "WIRE" AND NOW, 3 MONTHS AFTER SIGNING, WE'RE GONNA SING "KILLING AN ARAB" ON JOHN PEEL!
"WE GOT FLACK OVER THAT ONE. INDIGNANT PEOPLE TOOK THE TITLE OUT OF CONTEXT, IGNORING THE FACT THAT IT WAS BASED ON THE ENDING OF ALBERT CAMUS' NOVEL, "THE STRANGER"."
"I'LL NEVER FORGET THE NIGHT **AFTER** THE PEEL SHOW, WHEN WE BACKED UP **GENERATION X**. LOL WAS SLOSHED, AS USUAL, AND HAD TO TAKE A LEAK, BUT THESE TWO BEEFEATERS SAID THE LOO WAS, UM, "OCCUPIED"."
I DON' CARE 'BOUT THAT, YOU LOUTS!
I'M DROWNIN' IN ME OWN PEE, AIN'T I ?!?
LEMME IN THERE!
BLOKES

'EY, MATE, ME AN' THE LADY WANTED A LITTLE PRIVACY!
THE DA
I'M ONLY GONNA BE A MINUTE...
YER BILLY IDOL, FROM GENERATION X, AIN'TCHA?
PLEASED TO MAKE YER, AND THE YOUNG LADY'S ACQUAINTANCE.
HEY!!! WATCH THAT THING...
YOU BASTARD! YA PISSED ON ME BOOT!!!
"ARAB" GOT A LOT OF PRESS AS A SINGLE, THEN THE "THREE IMAGINARY BOYS" ALBUM CAME OUT IN MAY '79. IF WE'D PRODUCED IT OURSELVES, IT WOULD'VE BEEN... BETTER. OR, AT LEAST, DIFFERENT. BUT WE WERE JUST A BUNCH OF JOYLESS, NERVOUS KIDS."
"WE TOURED, I GOT DRUNK ALOT, SHOWED UP LATE FAIRLY OFTEN... THEN I MET STEVE SEVERIN AT A "THROBBING GRISTLE" SHOW IN LONDON."
YOU'RE WITH THE BANSHEES, AREN'T YOU? I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE INTO THIS KINDA CORE CAMP.
OH, SURE. WE GET ACCUSED OF BEING TOO SERIOUS, JUST LIKE YOUR BAND, THE CURE.
OUR GROUPS REALLY HAVE ALOT IN COMMON. IT'D BE GREAT IF WE COULD DO SOME DOUBLE BILLS TOGETHER!

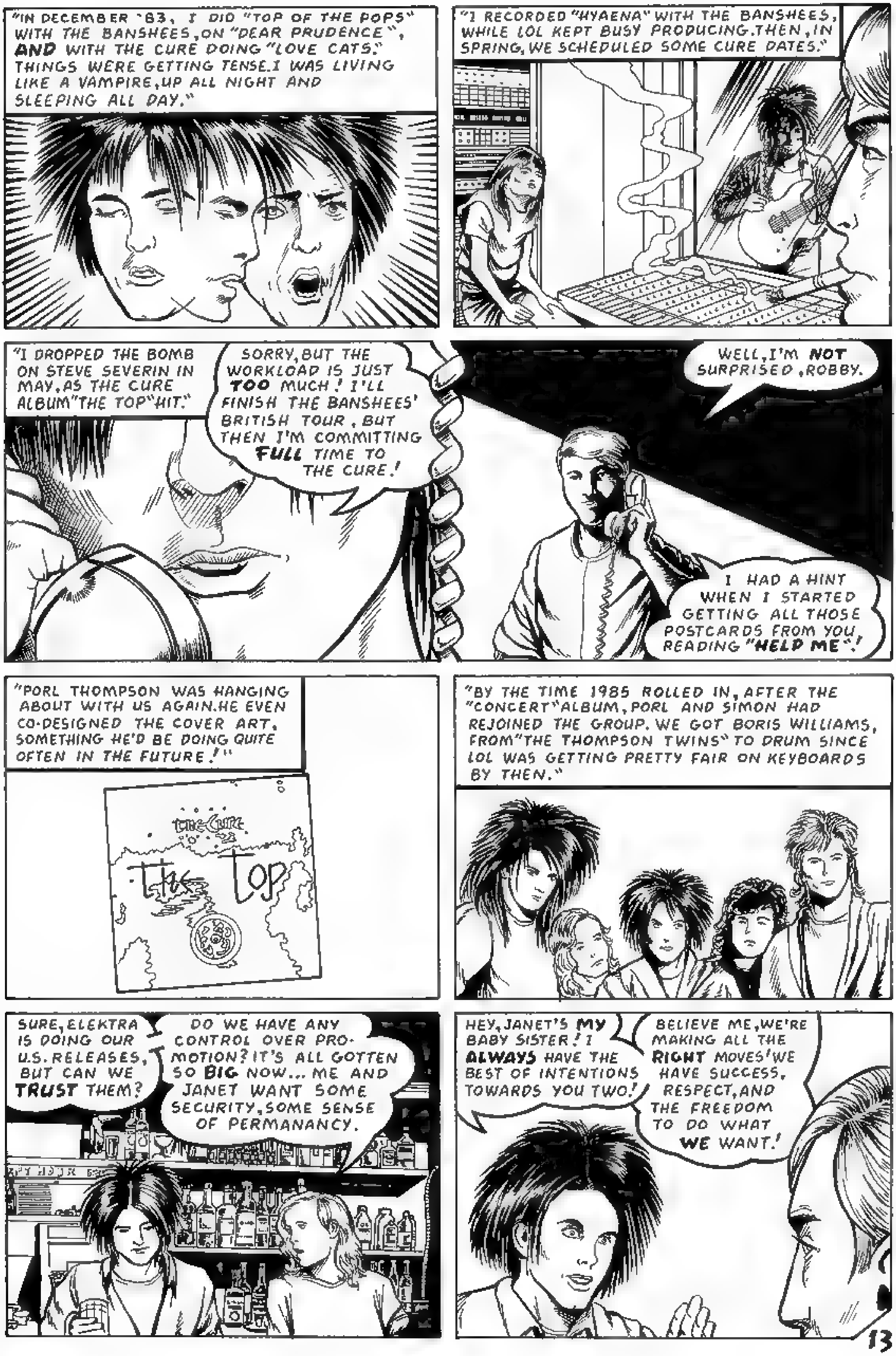
"WE TOURED TOGETHER, AND ALL GREW TIGHT. SIOUXSIE SANG ON THE B-SIDE OF OUR THIRD SINGLE, "I'M COLD." THEN, IN SEPTEMBER, THEY HAD A CRISIS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE TOUR."
ROBBIE, OUR DRUMMER AND GUITARIST JUST QUIT WITH NO NOTICE! THEY'RE ON A TRAIN FOR LONDON!
DEAD BOYS
WELL, MAYBE FOR TONIGHT WE COULD ALL JUST JAM TOGETHER, AFTER WE LET THE CROWD KNOW WHAT HAPPENED.
I COULD COVER GUITAR FOR YOU FOR A FEW GIGS, JUST PLAY WITH BOTH OUR GROUPS UNTIL YOU FIND A REPLACEMENT...
"I STAYED WITH SIOUXSIE AND THE BANSHEES ALOT LONGER THAN A FEW GIGS, DIDN'T I?"
GEEZ, ROBERT, YOU EVEN RIDE IN THE BANSHEE'S VAN NOW!
SORRY, LOL, BUT YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND... WITH THE CURE, I HAVE ALL THE RESPONSIBILITY!
EVERYONE DEPENDS ON ME... TO WRITE, SING, SELL, PERFORM... WITH SIOUXSIE, I CAN JUST STEP BACK FOR AWHILE!
WELL, ME AND MICHAEL ARE NONE TOO THRILLED!
NO TELLING WHAT'LL HAPPEN AFTER THIS TOUR WINDS UP!
"MIKE QUIT IN NOVEMBER, SO I VISITED SIMON GALLUP, FROM THAT OTHER CRAWLEY GROUP, "LOCKJAW", AND PLAYED HIM SOME DEMOS."
YEAH, WE'RE CORNERING THE MARKET ON FUNERAL MUSIC, AT LEAST, FOR NOW. ARE YOU IN?
YOU KNOW, WE'RE EVEN IN AMERICA NOW!
PVC PUT OUR ALBUM OUT OVER THERE! ONLY THEY CHANGED IT AROUND AND CALLED IT "BOYS DON'T CRY." IT'S SELLING FAIR, I HEAR.
MAN, ROBERT, THOSE MOPEY DOOM AND GLOOM LYRICS MAKE EDGAR ALLEN POE SEEM LIKE A CHEERLEADER!
SURE! THE DISTRIBUTION YOU GUYS GET THROUGH POLYDOR GIVES YOU SOME INTERNATIONAL EXPOSURE, DOESN'T IT?
NEXT, MAYBE WE SHOULD THINK ABOUT GETTING A KEYBOARDIST, TO HELP COMPOSE MELODIES AND FILL IN THE MIDDLE. KNOW ANYONE?
I'D BE AN IDIOT TO SAY NO!

"WE ENDED UP HIRING MATTHIEU HARTLEY, FROM THE "MAGPIES", BEFORE FINISHING THE TOUR WITH A HOMETOWN GIG IN CRAWLEY, AT THE COLLEGE... THE PLACE **RIOTED!**"
THE CURE
WHAT'S THE MATTER, MATT?
SO SOME SKINHEADS BASHED THE PLACE UP A BIT. YOU'LL GET USED TO IT.
HAVE SOME MORE BEER, THEN...
101 CLUB
YOU EVEN PUNCHED OUT THE GUYS FROM "THE PASSIONS"!
YOU'RE ALL **NUTS**, **CRAZY**... WHAT'VE I GOTTEN MYSELF **INTO**?!
"BY THE SPRING OF '80, I WAS PRETTY MUCH THROUGH WITH THE BANSHEES AND BACK AT THE HELM OF THE CURE. WE WORKED ON A NEW ALBUM AT MORGAN STUDIOS"...
WELL, WE'VE GOT ALOT MORE SAY OVER **THIS** ONE SO FAR, EVEN WITH THE PRODUCTION **AND** THE COVER ART.
YEAH, THAT OLD "FRIDGE AND HOOVER" SLEEVE SUCKED.
THE CURE
I LIKE YOUR BACK COVER FOR THIS ONE... THE BLURRED PHOTOS OF US HELPS MAINTAIN OUR "MYSTERIOUS" IMAGE.
"THE "SEVENTEEN SECONDS" ALBUM CAME OUT IN MAY, AND THEN WE DID OUR FIRST AMERICAN DATES. ONE THING I HATED ABOUT THAT, THOUGH...
C'MON, ROB, WE HAVE TO BE BACK IN LONDON BY TOMORROW TO DO OUR FIRST "TOP OF THE POPS"!
COULDN'T WE JUST TAKE A BOAT? A **FAST** BOAT? I **HATE** FLYING!

"OUR FIRST FULL EUROPEAN TOUR WENT BETTER... FOR THE MOST PART."
THAT'S THEM!
7' 6' 5' 4' 3' 2' 1'
SWIMMIN' NAKED, THEY WERE, RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF ROTTERDAM FOR ALL TO SEE! DISGUSTING...
EXCEPT, MAYBE THE HUGE ONE...
"MATT WAS VENTIN' HIS FRUSTRATION A BIT, TOO."
MATT! CALM DOWN!
FUCK YOU, FUCK AUSTRALIA...
FUCK THE CURE!!!
WHACK!
"WHEN WE GOT BACK TO ENGLAND, MATT QUIT... OVER THE BLOODY PHONE! SO 1981 FOUND US PERFORMING AS A THREE-PIECE AGAIN."
"SEVENTEEN SECONDS" IS TOP TEN IN BELGIUM AND THE NETHERLANDS, AND THE FIRST ALBUM IS GETTING PLAYED ON COLLEGE RADIO IN THE STATES!
YEAH, THE PRESSURE'S ON, INNIT?
THE FACE
BLITZ KIDS
WE'VE HOPPED OVER FOUR STUDIOS, INCLUDING "ABBEY ROAD", TRYING TO GET THIS NEW ALBUM RIGHT...
AND NOW THE MUSIC PRESS IS HARPING ON OUR "IMAGE", OR LACK OF ONE!
IF YOU'RE A PAINTER, YOUR ART SPEAKS FOR ITSELF. NOBODY CARES WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE.
BUT MUSIC REQUIRES AN IMAGE, AN ATTITUDE, SO MANY NON-MUSICAL FACTORS.
"I THINK I BOUGHT MY FIRST MAKEUP KIT THEN AND STOPPED CUTTING MY HAIR."
"ME AND LOL TALKED ALOT ABOUT YOU, IN FACT! THE GREAT EQUALIZER, THE FERRYMAN OF THE RIVER STYX. DEATH.
MY MUM'S PRETTY SICK... DOESN'T HAVE MUCH LONGER.
MAKES ME WANNA CURL UP AND DIE SOMETIMES, I GET SO DEPRESSED.
YEAH, I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN. DEATH SUCKS.
"UM, NO OFFENSE."

"YEAH, A&M WERE ISSUING US IN THE STATES, "FAITH" WAS SELLING WELL, AND WE WERE ABOUT TO TOUR AMERICA AGAIN. IN JULY '81, WE BACKED UP ROBERT PALMER, IN BELGIUM, AND OUR SET WAS RUNNING LONG."
THAT PUNTER OVER THERE IS SIGNALLING US TO SHUT DOWN SO THE ROADIES CAN SET UP FOR PALMER.
OH YEAH? WELL...
HEY, EVERYONE, THEY WANNA BOOT US! I SAY FUCK ROBERT PALMER! RIGHT?!?
YAA-AAY!!!
"HEH, WE PLAYED A 15 MINUTE VERSION OF "A FOREST". THE ROADIES GOT SO PISSED THEY THREW OUR EQUIPMENT OFF THE STAGE!"
"THEN LOL'S MUM DIED. THAT WAS THE FRENETIC STATE OF MIND WE WERE IN, DURING EARLY '82, WHEN WE STARTED RECORDING THE "PORNOGRAPHY" ALBUM. I STARTED IN WITH THE SKELETAL MAKEUP AND THE HAIR. THE SONGS WERE FUNEREAL AND CATHARTIC."
"COVER MY FACE AS THE ANIMALS DIE..."
"IN THE HANGING GARDEN, IN THE HANGING GARDEN..."
"THEN, IN JUNE, THE FACADE CRACKED."
YOU'VE BEEN PRETTY SURLY EVER SINCE THE EUROPEAN TOUR FINISHED, SIMON. HOW COME? STILL FEELING BALMY ABOUT THAT FISTFIGHT WE HAD OVER THE DRINK BILL IN STRASBOURG?
WELL, ROB, THERE'S A LOT OF THINGS I'D RATHER DO THAN TREK AROUND THE WORLD BEING DRUNK AND PLAYING FOR DRUNK PEOPLE.
YOU'RE DOING ALL THIS ACID, THE BAND IS FIGHTING WITH THE AUDIENCES AND EACH OTHER... I NEED A BREAK!
"I TOOK A BREAK MYSELF. JUST WENT CAMPING WITH MARY AND DEBATED SPLITTING UP THE CURE. THEN STEVE PARRY TALKED ME AND LOL INTO RECORDING TOGETHER. SIMON HEARD ABOUT IT AND OFFICIALLY QUIT THE GROUP."
WELL, NOW THAT I'M PLAYIN' KEYS INSTEADA DRUMS WE HAVE A WHOLE NEW SOUND.
PLUS, WITH ALL THE SESSION TEMPS PLAYIN'... I DUNNO. SHOULD WE STILL EVEN CALL IT "THE CURE"?
WELL, IT'LL DO FOR AN INTERIM RECORD. WE DON'T WANT EVERYONE CONVINCED WE'RE BROKEN UP UNTIL WE'VE SORTED IT OUT.
IT'S PRETTY OBVIOUS, THOUGH, WHAT WITH YOU REJOINING THE BANSHEES NEXT MONTH TO HELP 'EM FINISH THE TOUR.
""LET'S GO TO BED", "LOVE CATS", AND "THE WALK" WERE ALL RELEASED AS CURE SINGLES. "LOVE CATS" EVEN WENT TOP 10... WHILE I WAS STILL A BANSHEE!"

"I WAS A LITTLE SCHIZO THEN. I WAS STILL LIVING IN CRAWLEY, BUT THE CURE HAD MADE ME A BIG MEDIA STAR. THE LOOK THAT LAUNCHED A THOUSAND BAD HAIRCUTS! I WANTED TO CRAWL OUT OF THE SPOTLIGHT. LIKE I TOLD "MELODY MAKER" AT XMAS '82."
DO THE CURE EXIST ANYMORE?
WELL, I WROTE 90% OF "PORNOGRAPHY," BUT I DON'T FANCY DOING THAT KIND OF WORK AGAIN.
I SPENT FOUR YEARS WITH THE SAME PEOPLE AND NOW WE'VE GROWN APART.
THE NAME'S STILL THERE, THOUGH AND I MIGHT PICK IT UP AGAIN.
RIGHT NOW, I'LL TOUR WITH THE BANSHEES THROUGH SPRING, DO SOME RECORDING WITH THEM, AND THEN WE'LL SEE WHAT HAPPENS.
THE BANSHEES CAN GET BETTER DRUGS, ANYWAYS!
EVEN THOUGH I SANG THE BANSHEES' PRAISES, I WAS THINKING ABOUT THE CURE.
TIM POPE DIRECTED OUR "LET'S GO TO BED" VIDEO, AND HE STAYED WITH US FOR GOOD AFTER THAT.
EVEN TALKED ME INTO OFFICIALLY REFORMING THE GROUP.
I'M NOT SURE WHY I TOOK THE LOOK SO FAR, THOUGH.
I GUESS IT WAS LIKE WARPAINT. THE LIPSTICK AROUND THE EYES LOOKED LIKE BLOOD WHEN I SWEATED
IT PROVIDED AN INTENSE REACTION TO THE CURE'S INTENSE MUSIC.
IT ALLOWED YOU TO TAKE ON A NEW PERSONALITY.
YOUR LYRICS COULD BE EVEN MORE INTROSPECTIVE, MORE VULNERABLE, BECAUSE YOU SANG THEM WITH A MASK ON.
I WAS REALLY SPREADING MYSELF THIN. I EVEN DID A NOUVEAU-PSYCHEDELIC ALBUM WITH STEVE SEVERIN.
WE CALLED OURSELVES "THE GLOVE", AFTER THAT HEAVY, LITTLE BLIGHTER FROM THE BEATLES MOVIE, "YELLOW SUBMARINE."
IT WAS ALL TOO MUCH TO HANDLE. I COULDN'T BE LAID BACK AND INTROSPECTIVE ONE WEEK, THEN MEGALOMANIACAL A WEEK LATER CO-ORDINATING CURE PROJECTS.
ME AND LOL, AND SOME PICK-UP PLAYERS, PERFORMED AS THE CURE ON THE B.B.C.


"IN DECEMBER '83, I DID "TOP OF THE POPS" WITH THE BANSHEES, ON "DEAR PRUDENCE", AND WITH THE CURE DOING "LOVE CATS." THINGS WERE GETTING TENSE. I WAS LIVING LIKE A VAMPIRE, UP ALL NIGHT AND SLEEPING ALL DAY."
"I RECORDED "HYAENA" WITH THE BANSHEES, WHILE LOL KEPT BUSY PRODUCING. THEN, IN SPRING, WE SCHEDULED SOME CURE DATES."
"I DROPPED THE BOMB ON STEVE SEVERIN IN MAY, AS THE CURE ALBUM "THE TOP" HIT."
SORRY, BUT THE WORKLOAD IS JUST TOO MUCH! I'LL FINISH THE BANSHEES' BRITISH TOUR, BUT THEN I'M COMMITTING FULL TIME TO THE CURE!
WELL, I'M NOT SURPRISED, ROBBY.
I HAD A HINT WHEN I STARTED GETTING ALL THOSE POSTCARDS FROM YOU, READING "HELP ME"!
"PORL THOMPSON WAS HANGING ABOUT WITH US AGAIN. HE EVEN CO-DESIGNED THE COVER ART, SOMETHING HE'D BE DOING QUITE OFTEN IN THE FUTURE!"
THE CURE
THE TOP
"BY THE TIME 1985 ROLLED IN, AFTER THE "CONCERT" ALBUM, PORL AND SIMON HAD REJOINED THE GROUP. WE GOT BORIS WILLIAMS, FROM "THE THOMPSON TWINS" TO DRUM SINCE LOL WAS GETTING PRETTY FAIR ON KEYBOARDS BY THEN."
SURE, ELEKTRA IS DOING OUR U.S. RELEASES, BUT CAN WE TRUST THEM?
DO WE HAVE ANY CONTROL OVER PROMOTION? IT'S ALL GOTTEN SO BIG NOW... ME AND JANET WANT SOME SECURITY, SOME SENSE OF PERMANANCY.
HEY, JANET'S MY BABY SISTER! I ALWAYS HAVE THE BEST OF INTENTIONS TOWARDS YOU TWO!
BELIEVE ME, WE'RE MAKING ALL THE RIGHT MOVES! WE HAVE SUCCESS, RESPECT, AND THE FREEDOM TO DO WHAT WE WANT!

"THAT WAS OUR FINEST LINEUP. WE WENT TO ANGEL STUDIOS IN MARCH '85 TO START RECORDING "THE HEAD ON THE DOOR."
BOY, AM I GLAD WE PUT OUR DIFFERENCES BEHIND US, ROB THIS NEW MUSIC IS **EXACTLY** THE KIND OF STUFF I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO PLAY WITH YOU.
IT'S **CHALLENGING!**
I FEEL THE SAME WAY, SIMON. NOW THAT LOL'S ON KEYS, WE'RE A WHOLE **NEW** BAND!
WELL, I THINK WE HAVE OUR **STRONGEST** SINGLE YET WITH "CLOSE TO ME."
OOPS, SORRY ABOUT THE CIGGIE, ROB. FORGOT YOU WERE QUITTIN'.
THAT'S OKAY, LOL. IT'S **YOUR** SODDY LUNGS, INNIT? JUST MAKE SURE YOU LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO CONTRIBUTE AS MUCH TO THE SONGS AS BORIS HERE HAS.
HEY, I JUST TOP OFF A TEMPO OR A OFF-BEAT NOW AND AGAIN. DON'T BLAME THIS MESS ON ME!
HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!
"WE WERE PRACTICALLY GIDDY! THE GLOOMY DRONE KIND OF LIFTED FROM THE MUSIC, AS A RESULT."
"THE ALBUM CAME OUT IN AUGUST '85. AND IT'S BOOZY BUT FUN!"
THE HEAD ON THE DOOR
THE CURE
"EIGHT OF THE SONGS WENT DOWN FROM FIRST TAKES!"

"I HATED SHOOTING THE VIDEO FOR "IN BETWEEN DAYS", WITH ALL THE DANCING DAY-GLO SOCKS."
C'MON, ROB. POPE WANTS US ON THE SET BY SEVEN.
IF I HAD TO GO TO HEAVEN FIRST THING IN THE MORNING, I'D STILL BE PISSED!
"I DID A LOT OF INTERVIEWS AROUND THEN."
I STILL LEAD A REGULAR LIFE. THE SUCCESS OF "LOVE CATS" HASN'T CHANGED ANYTHING. I STILL PLAY SOCCER, WEAVE, GET DRUNK, GET CONSTIPATED...
TRENDY WENDY'S
WHAT DOES THE TITLE OF THE NEW RECORD STAND FOR, "THE HEAD ON THE DOOR"?
DID YOUR MUM AND DAD EVER TAKE YOU TO A PUPPET SHOW? I'VE ALWAYS BEEN FASCINATED WITH THE PUNCH AND JUDYS.
THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT THE WAY A PUPPET'S HEAD ROLLS OFF.
WE WERE GONNA CALL IT "THE HEAD ON THE POLE",
BUT I DIDN'T WANT PEOPLE TO THINK THAT WE WERE ON THE SAME DOWNER WE USED TO BE ACCUSED OF BEING ON!
"WE CAME UP WITH A NEW WAY TO COMPOSE."
WE ALL HAVE THE FACILITIES TO MAKE HOME DEMOS NOW. WE SHOULD WRITE SONGS INDIVIDUALLY, THEN GET TOGETHER AND PLAY TAPES FOR EACH OTHER.
THEN, WHAT, "RATE" THEM LIKE ON "AMERICAN BANDSTAND"?
SURE, WE'LL PICK THE ONES MOST WORTH WORKING ON... YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT US MUCKING WITH YOUR TUNES, LOL. YOU NEVER CONTRIBUTE ANYTHING WORTH RECORDING ANYMORE! HAH!
OH, SOD OFF, PORL!
"WE PICKED A LOT ON POOR OLD LOL. WE WERE ALL DRINKING, BUT HE REALLY DRIFTED OFF."

"ELEKTRA PUT THE ALBUM OUT STATESIDE, AND THEY TREATED US BETTER THAN OUR FIRST FOUR U.S. LABELS HAD. IN APRIL '86, TIM POPE AND I STARTED COMPILING ALL THE VIDEOS."
""CLOSE TO ME" WAS A HUGE HIT IN FRANCE WHEN WE WENT OVER TO DO THEIR "CHAMPS ELYSÉE" T.V. SHOW."
I'M TOLD IT'S FRANCE'S VERSION OF "TOP OF THE POPS": BIG TIME STUFF.
'COURSE, THE FROGS THINK JERRY LEWIS IS A GOD.
SAYS HERE IN THE "RECORD MIRROR" THAT "THE CURE ARE THE BIGGEST THING TO HAPPEN IN FRANCE SINCE JOAN OF ARC REFUSED TO BURN AT ROUEN"!
KINDA GIVES YOU A BIG HEAD, DOESN'T IT?
IT'S MY STOMACH THAT'S GETTING BIGGER, FROM ALL THE BEER AND GREASY EATS WE GET IN PLACES LIKE THIS!
COMING SOON
Depeche Mode
BLACK CELEBRATION
"YEAH, I WAS PUTTIN' IT ON. VISUALLY, I LOOKED NOTHING LIKE I HAD BEFORE."
YOU KNOW, UP UNTIL NOW FICTION RECORDS WERE DISTRIBUTED THROUGH POLYDOR, BUT THE CONTRACT'S NEARLY UP.
I BET THEY'LL TRY TO CAPITALIZE BY PUTTING OUT A COLLECTION OF ALL THE SINGLES.
DINER
WE SHOULD BEAT THEM TO THE PUNCH WITH OUR OWN CHOICES FOR A SINGLES COMPILATION...
"WE GOT "STANDING ON A BEACH" OUT BY MAY '86, ALONG WITH THE VIDEO COMP "STARING AT THE SEA". THE TITLES CAME FROM LINES IN "KILLING AN ARAB". BOY, THAT SONG GOT US IN TROUBLE THE SECOND TIME AROUND!"

YOU ALREADY KNOW ABOUT THE LETTER WE GOT FROM THE SPOKES-MAN FOR THE AMERICAN-ARAB ANTI-DISCRIMINATION LEAGUE, FARIS BOUHAFA...
ELEKTRA
SURE, HE'S ONE OF THE PUNTERS WHO IGNORED THE LYRICS OF "KILLING AN ARAB" AND POUNCED ON THE TITLE! SO?
WELL, NOW HE'S FUMING ABOUT SOMETHING A DJ IN NEW JERSEY SAID...
AND THIS ONE HERE IS ABOUT KILLING AN AY-RAB. SOME-THING WE'D ALL LIKE TO TRY SOMETIME!
RUTGERS
SO SOME IDIOT YANKEE GIT MADE AN INSULTING SLUR. THAT'S NOT OUR FAULT!
WELL, MR. BOUHAFA WANTS TO HAVE A MEETING WITH YOU AND YOUR MANAGER. IT COULDN'T HURT TO DO IT...
"I WAS GENUINELY SORRY ABOUT THE MISINTERPRETATION OF OUR SONG, SO WE MET WITH THE BLOKE FOR THREE HOURS AND CAME UP WITH A REMEDY, OF SORTS."
WELL, I AGREED TO PUT A STICKER ON THE RECORD SAYING, "THE CURE DON'T ADVOCATE THE KILLING OR ARABS" OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
THAT'S ALL FINE, BUT WE'RE REALLY GONNA HAVE TO PINCH THE SCHEDULE TO SQUEEZE IN THE BENEFIT FOR LEBANESE AND PALESTINIAN ORPHANS YOU AGREED TO!!!
"IN MAY '86, I BRAVED THE DAMNED AIRLINES AGAIN TO PROMOTE THE COMPS IN AMERICA."
THE FIRST VIDEOS WERE HILARIOUS! WE FELT ABOVE IMAGE BUILDING, SO WE JUST STOOD IN FRONT OF THE CAMERA LOOKING AS BORED AS WE WERE.
NOW, WE'RE KNOWN FOR INVENTIVE VIDEOS, NOW THAT TIM POPE IS TRANSLATING OUR IDEAS.
WE'RE A LOT HAPPIER WITH THE MEDIUM NOW, AND IT SHOWS ...MUSICALLY AND VISUALLY.

SO BY THIS TIME YOU WERE NO LONGER ENTHRALLED BY THE NOTION OF TAKING THIS FINAL JOURNEY WITH ME.
YEAH, WE WEREN'T HUNG UP ON DEATH ANYMORE. I FIGURE, EVERYONE IN ANY ROOM I'M EVER IN IS GOING TO DIE, SAME AS I AM, SO THERE'S NO POINT IN BLEATING ABOUT IT!
I DIDN'T WANT TO TURN INTO ANOTHER ROGER WATERS, DID I?
"IN SPRING, ON THE WAY TO DO "TOP OF THE POPS"...
HEY, YOU'RE THAT SINGER, AIN'TCHA? WOW! MY FIRST CELEBRITY!
UM YEAH, THANKS.
IMAGINE THAT. BOY GEORGE IN MY CAB!
"AT SHOWTIME, THE RE-MIX SINGLE WAS AT #23 IN BRITAIN."
"I WOULD DO MOST ANYTHING TO GET YOU BACK BY MY SIDE"...
"WE WENT TO WORK IN SUMMER, DOING SONGS FOR A NEW ALBUM."
HEY, HOW COME WE'RE ALL WEARING THE SAME SUIT?!?
IT'S SO WE WON'T LOSE EACH OTHER! IT'LL BE LIKE WEARING A YELLOW FLAG. "WHO'S IN THE BAND THIS WEEK?" "AH, HE MUST BE... HE'S GOT A SUIT ON!"
"THE SESSION GOT INTERRUPTED BY A SHORT EURO-TOUR, A FRENCH TV APPEARANCE, A COUPLES OF U.K. DATES, AND OF COURSE..."
"WELCOME TO THE WORLD CUP FINALS!"
"I HAD IT PUT IN OUR CONTRACT THAT GAMES HAD PRECEDENCE OVER CONCERT SHOWTIMES!"
"THE U.S. LEG GOT OFF ON AN AUSPICIOUS START... LOL DRANK A BOTTLE OF BRANDY AND PASSED OUT WHILE ON THE PHONE TO HIS GIRL. LONG DISTANCE."
"THE FLIPPING BILL WAS $1500.00!"

"IT WAS ON THE U.S. TOUR THAT I CHANGED MY HAIR... JUST UP AND GOT A CREWCUT! ALL THE KIDS IN NEW YORK WITH THE DON KING HEADS WERE CONFUSED... AND PISSED!"
BOOOOOOOOO
WELL, I WAS FED UP WITH PEOPLE SAYING, "HOW DID YOU GET YOUR HAIR LIKE THAT?" SO, I HACKED IT OFF.
THE PARADOX WAS PEOPLE JUST TALKED ABOUT IT EVEN MORE! IT'S ALL THEY TALKED ABOUT!
I JUST ABOUT RECOGNIZE MYSELF NOW THAT I'VE GOTTEN USED TO IT!
"ROLLING STONE CAME OUT TO DO A FEATURE ON US..."
I'M NOT REALLY DEPRESSED OR OBSESSED WITH DEATH, THOUGH EVERYTHING I DO HAS THE TINGE OF THE FINITE, OF MY OWN DEMISE.
AT SOME POINT, YOU EITHER ACCEPT DEATH OR YOU JUST KEEP PUSHING IT BACK AS YOU GET OLDER.
ME, I'VE ACCEPTED IT.
"WELL SPOKEN, MR. SMITH."
"UH, THANKS, I THINK SO, WHERE TO NEXT?"

"WE COULD MOVE ON TO THE LIVE CONCERT YOU FILMED AT THE ROMAN AMPHITHEATER IN PROVENCE, IN AUGUST, 1986".
"YEAH, WE WANTED TIM POPE TO DIRECT IT LIKE THE PINK FLOYD AT POMPEII MOVIE."
"IN FACT, WE DID ONE OF THEIR SONGS..."
"SET THE CONTROLS FOR THE HEART OF THE SUN... THE HEART OF THE SUN."
"I'VE ALWAYS LOVED FLOYD'S "UMMAGUMMA", IT'S MY FAVORITE DOUBLE ALBUM. WE DECIDED TO DO A DOUBLE OF OUR OWN."
WELL, THAT'S FINALLY IT. IT'S BEEN MONTHS OF WORK, BUT THIS ALBUM IS AS READY AS IT'LL EVER BE! WE WEEDED IT DOWN FROM 40 SONGS TO A SOLID 18.
'S ABOUT TIME WE GO TO SOUTH AMERICA AND THE U.S IN MARCH, AND WE OUGHTTA BE ON THE ROAD WHEN IT COMES OUT.
WELL, MAYBE WE OUGHTN'T RUSH IT. TIM'S FINISHING UP THE "CURE IN ORANGE" CONCERT FILM.
WE DON'T WANT TO FLOOD THE MARKET BY PUTTING OUT A RECORD AT THE SAME TIME.
WELL, I'LL BE DAMNED! ROBERT SMITH, THE GURU OF NON-COMMERCIAL GLOOM TALKING LIKE A FLUSHED RECORD EXECUTIVE!
WHO'D'VE THUNK IT?!
YEAH, YOU'RE LOOSENING UP, ROB!
YOU EVEN LET 3 OF MY SONGS MAKE THE CUT, AND 2 OF SIMON'S!
FAT LOT I GOT TO CONTRIBUTE! MIGHT AS WELL BE A GHOST WITH THIS LOT! AN' I'VE BEEN HERE PRACTICALLY SINCE THE BEGINNING!
BAUHAUS

"'KISS ME, KISS ME, KISS ME" CAME OUT IN MAY '87, AND IT WAS OUR BIG AMERICAN BREAK-THROUGH."
The Cure
"WE EVEN SOLD OUT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN!"
Y'KNOW, LOL, I'VE BEEN GIVING THOUGHT TO RECORDING A SOLO ALBUM.
OH BLOODY GREAT!
FIRST YOU DON'T EVEN WANNA' SING.
THEN, YOU'RE WRITING ALL THE SONGS AND PICKING THE COVERS, THEN YOU WANNA BE A BANSHEE SIDEMAN, AND THEN YOU DECIDE TO PUT A NEW PACK OF "YES" MEN TOGETHER AND CALL IT THE CURE!
NOW YOU WANNA BE GEORGE-FUCKING-MICHAEL!
I DON'T WANT TO BE KNOWN AS THE ANDREW RIDGELEY OF THE CURE!
WELL, IF YOU WERE AS GOOD AS ANDREW RIDGELEY, I'D INVITE YOU TO PLAY ON IT!
WELL, I...I.. MAYBE I'LL PUT OUT MY OWN SOLO ALBUM! FUCK YOU!
SLAM!
YEAH, RIGHT, RINGO MAYBE YOUR DAD'LL BUY IT!

"THAT WAS AROUND OCTOBER 1987. I DECIDED TO BRING IN ROGER O'DONNELL...TO BACK LOL UP."
WE'LL BE DOING AN ALBUM SUPPORT JAUNT THROUGH NORTHERN EUROPE.
IT WON'T BE ANYTHING LIKE THE STUFF YOU DID WITH THE PSYCHEDELIC FURS, ROGER.
GOD, I HOPE SO! I HATED BEING THE GHOST PLAYER!
AT LEAST NOW I GET TO BE IN THE BAND PHOTOS. HEY, WHAT ABOUT YOUR OLD KEYBOARDIST?
LOL'S A RIGHT SORT, BUT THE DRINKING ISN'T IMPROVING HIS "ONE-FINGER" STYLE.
HIM AND SIMON ARE MY BEST MATES, SO I CAN'T BOOT HIM, BUT WE NEED YOU TO FILL IN THE EMPTY SPACES.
THIS BAND HAS TO STAY TOGETHER, IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER, EVEN IF I DO KEEP LARKING TO THE PRESS BY THREATENING TO BREAK IT UP.
OTHERWISE, I'D HAVE TO WORK AND I CAN'T BEAR THAT NOTION!
"I HAD OTHER REASONS FOR SEEKING SECURITY AT THAT STAGE OF MY LIFE...
IT'S ABOUT TIME I ASKED MARY TO BE MY WIFE.
WE'VE ONLY BEEN TOGETHER NOW FOR 15 YEARS!
I GUESS I WANTED TO WAIT UNTIL I'D KNOWN HER FOR LONGER THAN I HADN'T.
BESIDES, I'M SICK OF PRETENDING TO LIVE IN THE BAHAMAS AND EVERY-WHICH-WHERE AS A TAX DODGE.
IT'S A GOOD TIME TO SETTLE IN A BIT...

"THE ORANGE CONCERT CAME OUT ON VIDEO IN NOVEMBER, WHILE WE TOURED THE CONTINENT."
THE CURE ORANGE
OH GOD, ROB, I NOT ONLY DON'T KNOW THE WAY TO THE HOTEL, BUT I FORGOT WHAT COUNTRY WE'RE IN!
CHEER UP, PORL, AN' HAVE ANOTHER DRINK. AT LEAST WE'VE STILL GOT OUR CLOTHES THIS TIME!
"YEAH, WE WERE ALL FERMENTING OUR BRAINS. I WAS DRINKING ON MY 29TH BIRTHDAY, APRIL 1988, WHILE VISITING MY MUM'S HOUSE."
YOU HAVE ONE OF OUR ALBUM'S HERE, "FAITH."
OH YES, IT'S THE ONLY ONE I HAVE! QUITE GOOD, THAT ONE.
HADN'T PLAYED THIS IN YEARS. I SHOULD GIVE IT A LISTEN.
THE CURE
"I PLAYED IT, RE-READ ALL MY SPOOKY OLD DIARIES, AND HUNG OUT IN MUM'S GARDEN."
HAVEN'T GOT ROOM FOR ANY-THING LIKE THIS IN LONDON.
'S LIKE A LITTLE SPOT OF EDEN!
ALL THESE LUDICROUS NOTES I USED TO KEEP WITH PRETENTIOUS NIETZCHE QUOTES ABOUT TRANSCENDING DESPAIR THROUGH ART.
GLAD I'VE GROWN OUT OF THIS KIDDIE FODDER.

"I WAS FEELING JOVIAL ENOUGH TO GET MARRIED IN THE SPRING OF '88!"
THANKS FOR BEING MY BEST MAN, SIMON. I'LL BET YOU THOUGHT IT WAS ABOUT TIME!
YOU SAID IT, SMITTY!
"ME AND MARY SPENT THE SUMMER CAMPING, GETTING AWAY FROM ALL THE PRESSURES. I GUESS I STARTED FEELING A LITTLE MOROSE AGAIN."
DID WE DO THE RIGHT THING, GETTING HITCHED? WILL THE PASSION COOL?
I CAN'T IMAGINE NOT BEING WITH HER!
"I TOOK SOME OF THAT FEAR INTO THE STUDIO WITH ME IN JANUARY 1989, AS WE STARTED RECORDING "DISINTEGRATION."
"HAPPINESS MURMURED IN DREAMS,
"WHEN WE BOTH OF US KNEW HOW THE END ALWAYS IS!
WE'RE REALLY GONNA SURPRISE THE CYNICS WITH THIS ONE. THESE ARE YOUR BEST LYRICS YET, ROB.
WELL, PORL, YOU AND BORIS PROVIDED SOME GREAT DEMOS, AND IT WAS THE TUNES THAT INSPIRED THE WORDS!
WELL, I JUST HOPE MY POP SONGS FIT INTO THE MIX. IDEALLY, OUR DIFFERENT STYLES SHOULD MELD TOGETHER LIKE ON THE WHITE ALBUM.
I ONLY BLOODY NAMED THIS GROUP... HOW COME I NEVER GET IN A WORD NOW AND AGAIN?
HOW ABOUT OUR RESIDENT DRUNKEN POSEUR? HAVEN'T YOU ANYTHING TO ADD, LOL? ARE YOU GONNA LET ROGER DIDDLE HIS KEYS OVER THE WHOLE ALBUM, OR ARE YOU JUST GONNA KEEP WATCHING MTV ALL DAY! C'MON, A PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS!
A PENNY? YOU'D STILL HAVE CHANGE COMING. HEH HEH!
GRRRRR...!

"BOY, WE REALLY WERE CRUEL. WE WERE DOING IT FOR THE GOOD OF THE BAND, THOUGH. IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE HE TOOK THE HINT...
"WHENEVER I GOT SOME TIME, I'D DO PASTICHE WORK ON AN INSTRUMENTAL ALBUM WITH THAT OLD BANSHEE, STEVE SEVERIN."
WELL, IT'S GOT A FEW GEMS SO FAR.
I LIKE THE STUFF YOU DID WHEN YOU AND THE CURE WERE TOO DRUNK TO WORK ON YOUR OWN RECORD!
"DISINTEGRATION" WAS OUT BY SUMMER '89. I'M RIGHT PROUD OF THAT ONE... AT THE TIME, I DIDN'T THINK THAT IT COULD EVER BE TOPPED!"
THE CURE
DISINTEGRATION
SHOULD WE EVEN BOTHER TO GO ON?
I'D LIKE TO STOP BEFORE IT REACHES THE TOP OF THAT IMAGINARY HILL AND THEN SLIDES BACK DOWN AGAIN!
I'VE ALREADY TOLD THE PRESS, RATHER SMUGLY, THAT THIS IS ABSOLUTELY THE LAST CURE ALBUM AND TOUR.
'COURSE, THE REST OF THE GUYS'LL CALL FOUL. WE'RE JUST NOW RACKING UP BIG SALES IN AMERICA, SINCE ELEKTRA BACK-RACKED THE FIRST FOUR ALBUMS, AND WE'RE GETTING HUGE OFFERS TO GO OVER THERE AFTER THE U.K. TOUR...

"COURSE, THINGS GOT A LITTLE LESS... UNWIELDY... WHEN WE PARED DOWN TO A CONCISE FIVE-PIECE AGAIN."
YOU DON'T NEED ME, SMITTY. YOU NEED A TRAINED SEAL TO HIT THE KEYS ON YOUR CUE!
I'M OUT, THEN...
DON'T GO AWAY MAD, LOL...
...JUST GO AWAY!
"THE CONTINENTAL TOUR WAS A COMPLETE SELLOUT.
WELL, ON THE STRENGTH OF THE EUROPEAN TICKET SALES, THE AMERICAN PROMOTERS HAVE DOUBLED THEIR OFFER TO BRING "THE PRAYER TOUR" OVER THERE!
HMMM... WELL, I WON'T FLY BUT IF THEY'LL BOOK US ON THE QUEEN ELIZABETH II, I SAY... WHAT THE HELL, LET'S GO!
"IT WAS IN AMERICA THAT IT FIRST OCCURRED TO ME THAT ROGER O'DONNELL MIGHT BE MORE OF A PAIN IN THE ASS THAN LOL HAD BEEN!"
WHY THE HELL ARE WE SLEEPING ON THE BUS, WHILE ROGER FLIES AHEAD?
AW, HE'S PAYING FOR IT. STILL, THOUGH, IT SHOWS A LOT OF BLOODY CAMARADERIE, DOESN'T IT?
HE SAID HE HATED BOOZIN' AND STAYIN' UP ALL NIGHT. 'E AIN'T LONG FOR US, IS HE?

"MAN, I FELT ALIVE ONSTAGE THAT TOUR! WE HAD THE BEST CATALOG OF SONGS EVER, AND WE WERE DOING THREE HOURS SETS!
"BUT WHEN I TALKED TO MARY AT HOME, I HAD SERIOUS DOUBTS."
I SHOULD TRY TO MAKE TOURING A REALLY HORRIBLE EXPERIENCE, SO THAT ALL I WANT TO DO IS RECOIL AND GO HOME TO YOU! I'VE PLAYED ENOUGH CONCERTS TO LAST ME INTO THE NEXT CENTURY!
"OH, IT BECAME HORRIBLE WHEN I GOT THAT STOMACH VIRUS!
AAARRR, MY STOMACH! THE SICKNESS IS BAD ENOUGH, BUT READIN' THIS TRENDY AMERICAN MUSIC PRESS IS REALLY TOSSING MY POT!
WE HAVE TWO HUGE HITS HERE NOW, "FASCINATION STREET" AND "LOVE SONG" BUT ROLLING STONE SAW THE SHOW AND SAYS, "NEVER HAVE SO MANY PEOPLE ENJOYED HAVING SO LITTLE FUN AT A ROCK SHOW."..
EWAR'S PROFILE
NAME JELLO BIAFRA
CCOMPLISHMENT
PLACING FOURTH OUT OF TEN IN SAN FRANCISCO MAYORAL RACE
Rolling
... IT'S TIME THE AMERICANS CAUGHT UP WITH US AND REALIZED THAT WE DO HAVE A SENSE OF HUMOR.
LET'S GO ALL OUT IN THIS VIDEO FOR "LULLABY."
WELL, WE COULD DANGLE YOU FROM THE ANKLES AND DROP YOU INTO THE MOUTH OF A GIANT MECHANICAL SPIDER!
WELL, UM...
"SURE ENOUGH"..
THIS IS EVEN SILLIER THAN THE FLOURESCENT DANCING SOCKS!

"BY THE BEGINNING OF 1990, "LOVE SONG" WAS A TOP TEN YANKEE HIT!"
WEIRD, INNIT PORL?
THE THOUGHT OF SOMEONE LISTENING TO BILLY JOEL ON THE RADIO AND THEN HEARING US... AND THEN SAYING, "I QUITE LIKE THAT! I'LL BUY IT!" IT'S ABSURD! THE GROUP'S BECOME A MONSTER!
EXIT
'COURSE, NOW IT'LL BE THAT MUCH HARDER TO KICK THE MONSTER TO LIFE INSTEAD OF JUST LETTING IT LIE THERE.
IT'LL BE AWHILE BEFORE I'M READY FOR ANOTHER CURE ALBUM. FIRST, WE'VE GOTTA' DEAL WITH ROGER!
"I WAS STILL ON GOOD TERMS WITH LOL, THOUGH. HE EVEN INVITED US TO HIS WEDDING! WE WERE ON TOUR, SO WE INVITED HIM TO A WEMBLEY SHOW. BIG HEART, THAT LAD. I FELT BAD ABOUT THE RAZING WE'D GIVEN HIM."
"PORL GOT THE LOVE BUG TOO. MARRIED MY YOUNGER SISTER, JANET. THEY'D ONLY BEEN TOGETHER 10 YEARS!"
"WHEN THE TOUR FINISHED, IT FELT GREAT TO JUST GO HOME. BUT I FELT RESTLESS AFTER A COUPLE OF DAYS."
I'M SO BORED!
I NEED SOMETHING TO KEEP BUSY UNTIL MARY GETS BACK FROM THE SHOPS...
MAYBE ANOTHER CHANGE IS WHAT I NEED... LIKE, ANOTHER BUZZ CUT!
"MARY ALMOST CUT MY HEAD OFF AT THE NECK WHEN SHE SAW IT! LUCKILY, IT GREW OUT FAIRLY QUICKLY."

"I DID A LOT OF THINKING ABOUT ROGER, TOO. WE FINALLY HAD WORDS..."
I'M STILL PISSED ABOUT YOUR HOITY-TOITY FLYING ACROSS AMERICA INSTEAD OF RIDING WITH **US**.
AND NOW I HEAR YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT THROWING IN WITH PRINCE!
AWW, THAT WAS JUST A BLIND. I NEVER **REALLY** THREATENED TO WALK OUT ON YOU GUYS...
WELL, IT'S TOO BAD YOU **HAVEN'T**!
AFTER ALL, YOU'RE **ONLY** A SESSION PLAYER. YOU'VE NEVER BEEN A **PROPER** MEMBER OF A **REAL** BAND!
YOU'RE **JUST** ANOTHER HIRED HAND!
"CURE PROJECTS STAYED IN LIMBO RIGHT THROUGH SPRING."
"THEN I GOT A LETTER FROM ONE OF OUR FANS, A KID OVER IN BRIGHTON..."
HE HAS A GOOD POINT HERE.
A LOT OF OUR SONGS CAME OUT ON ALTERNATIVE 12 INCH MIXES, AND THOSE ARE GETTING SCARCE NOW.
SMITH
HE COMPLAINS ABOUT HAVING TO PAY £25 FOR A RE-MIX PRESSING OF "WHY CAN'T I BE YOU"...
LIKE IT'S **OUR** FAULT THAT IT'S OUT OF PRINT!
IT'D BE A GREAT IDEA TO COLLET THE RE-MIXES ON AN ALBUM.
"THE ONLY PROBLEM WAS THAT SOME OF **MY** FAVORITE CURE SONGS NEVER **HAD** 12 INCH VERSIONS."
I THINK WE SHOULD DIG UP THE MASTERS TO SOME OF THE OLDER SONGS AND GIVE THEM TO OUR FAVORITE PRODUCERS AND ENGINEERS. WE'LL LET THEM RE-DO THE SONGS **ANY** WAY THEY WANT!
GREAT IDEA! IT'LL GIVE THE OLD CUTS A WHOLE NEW TURN! MAYBE WE COULD EVEN DO A **NEW** ONE!
SO, THERE'S A NEW DOUBLE ALBUM DUE OUT IN OCTOBER?
WELL, "MIXED UP" **WILL** BE NEW TO SOME LISTENERS, ESPECIALLY IN AMERICA. IT'LL EITHER LIGHT YOUR FIRE OR TOTALLY PISS YOU OFF!
THE SONGS HAVE BEEN RADICALLY, WELL... TWISTED!

"WE EVEN DID "MTV UNPLUGGED"... AND HAD FUN (EVEN IF THEY DID CUT THE BEST SONG OF THE DAY, "LULLABY.")"
"HIS ARMS ARE AROUND ME, HIS TONGUE IN MY EYES"...
YEAH, WE JUST RECENTLY GOT THE GUITAR ROADIE, PERRY BAMONTE, TO COVER KEYS FOR US.
WE DID SOME U.K. FESTIVALS IN THE FALL OF 1990, AND THEN SOME IDIOT TALKED ME INTO FLYING TO SCOTLAND FOR... HEY, WHAT'S THAT ODD SENSATION?
I'M GETTING DIZZY! WHAT'S HAPPENING!?!
IS THIS ... IS THIS THE END OF THE LINE?
SIR! SIR! ARE YOU ALRIGHT? YOU'VE BEEN UNCONCIOUS FOR TEN MINUTES!
WHAT?!? I'M ALIVE? I'M ALIVE!!!
GOD, I HATE FLYING!
MY WHOLE BLOODY LIFE FLASHED BEFORE MY EYES IN TEN LOUSY MINUTES?!?
YES, IT WAS ONLY ANOTHER "NEAR DEATH" EXPERIENCE.
I KNEW SOMEBODY SCREWED UP AT THE MAIN OFFICE. IT WASN'T SMITH'S TIME, YET.
HE AND THE CURE, IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER ARE DUE TO CONTINUE EXORCISING PAIN, DOUBT AND FEAR WITH THE TONIC OF MUSIC FOR SOME TIME TO COME!
THE LISTENERS WILL SHARE IN THE CATHARTIC, HEALING RELEASE. AT LEAST, FOR THE TIME BEING. THE MUSIC IS, INDEED...
THE CURE